

IS HITLER DEAD?
AND
BEST ANTI-NAZI HUMOR

•

EDITED WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

B. D. SHAW

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"A PROPER JEST AND NEVER HEARD BEFORE"

2 HENRY VI

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INTRODUCTION

How often have we repeated the proverb "Many a true word is spoken in jest"; and how little do we realize the implications of that old saw. For it is that element, truth, however concealed or distorted, which provides the significance which accounts, in part at least, for the universal appeal of humor.

However, the pungent, scathing humor of true social comedy can exist only among a free people. Since the dawn of humor, tyrants have tried to suppress the free exercise of wit. Instinctively they know and fear the tremendous power of laughter. But the attempts at suppression have never been entirely successful. There is something in the very idea of a Dictator that appeals irresistibly to our risibilities.

The body of Freedom may be trampled on, but her imperishable spirit cannot be crushed. And, as this book amply testifies, humor is not dead in Germany. Her people, yearning for freedom, laugh at Hitler and his satellites.

In his book "Wit and Its Relation to the Unconscious," Freud demonstrated how the repressed thoughts and feelings of a person seek and find expression in the form of jests. If we wish to determine the real regard in which a public figure is held, we should listen to private jeers rather than public cheers.

Compare, for example, the many humorous stories inspired by Abraham Lincoln and the jokes told about Adolf Hitler. The jokesters of his time played mercilessly with "Honest Abe's" honesty, his weight and ungainliness, his manner of speech, his strength and his humility. Yet almost always there is in all their jokes, even in the most malicious ones an undertone of warmth, even of tenderness for the hero of these stories.

On the other hand, what do we find in the jokes about Hitler? Malice, pure and unmitigated, cold, vicious jeering; an unrelieved hatred permeates every word. These stories attack his egomania, his cruelty, low origin and still lower activities. I did not come across a single tale which indicated the slightest affection for the Fuhrer.

I trust these stories will do their bit to arouse the American public against that social spectre which is Fascism.

We who love to laugh unrestrainedly should never forget that if Fascism ever gets a strangle hold upon us it will endeavour to dominate and regulate our laughter. We must never forget, that only a democratic people can jest, and joke and laugh as they will.

BEST ANTI-NAZI HUMOR

Budapest joke about the resigned Bela Imredy, Jewish-blooded anti-semitic ex-Premier of Hungary:

"Imredy eats all his meals standing up these days."

"Why?"

"Because he refuses to sit at table with a Jew."

» «

A woman in Germany entered a grocery shop and said to the proprietor:

"I'd like a salami, please."

"I haven't any," came the answer.

"Then give me a pound of butter."

"I haven't any of that either."

"Well how about some onions?"

"Listen, lady," said the grocer, in a whisper, his eye on the other customers, "did you come in to buy something or to start a political row?"

» «

Werner Fink, brilliant German night club entertainer now languishing in a concentration camp, once asked his audience:

"Can anyone here tell me the name of a German, famous the world over, representative of the Aryan race, and very intelligent? Here's a clue: the first three letters of his name are Goe . . .".

With one accord his listeners shouted "Goebbels".

"Well he's German all right, and famous the world over," replied Fink, "but I said 'representative of the Aryan race'."

The spectators tried again. "Goering!" they cried.

"Wrong! He's famous, representative of the Aryan race, but I said 'very intelligent'."

The audience scratched their collective heads.

"I'll have to tell you the answer," said Fink finally, breaking out into mock lamentation at their memories. "I was referring to Goethe!"

As we said Werner Fink is now in a concentration camp.

» «

Reuter reports that Italian lawn tennis players in international matches will in the future be required to play in uniform and that hand-shaking between opponents has been forbidden in order "to avoid the weed of intimacy which has for too long infested lawn tennis courts."

—*Manchester Guardian*.

» «

You remember that burlesque history of England "1066 and All That?" Glancing at it the other day Werner Knop, ex-German now residing in England came on an amusing skit about William of Orange. It referred to . . . the battle of the Boyne and a very strong treaty which followed it stating—

(a) That all the Irish Catholics who liked could be transported to France.

(b) That all the rest who liked could be put to the sword.

(c) That Northern Ireland should be planted with blood-Orangemen . . .

Knop translated it, sent it to *Borsen-Zeitung*, who fell for it, printed it "blood-Orangemen" and all—as serious historical evidence of British brutality.

—*Daily Express, London*.

» «

Dr. Conti, who before 1933 was Physician to the Berlin S. A., has now been appointed head of Berlin's health services. Recently he ordered that all Jewish patients be removed from Berlin asylums, nerve clinics, etc. and be placed in separate institutions for the cost of which they themselves would be held responsible.

Dr. Conti is very proud of this original measure, and gives sound reasons therefor. Certainly, he says, Aryans who are mentally unbalanced should not be asked to dwell under the same roof as lunatics "of an inferior race." In the second

place, one must consider the feelings of the attendants, since Jewish patients appear to be subject to fits of wild rage in which they insult and revile the Fuhrer . . .

Obviously, "blood will tell," once more, for while Jewish inmates craftily make use of their insanity to blaspheme against the Brown Saviour, the lunatic of purer stock manifests his mental illness in quite another fashion. He, to the great joy of his doctors and nurses prattles from morn till night in praise of Hitler, his insanity being of the "guaranteed pure Aryan" category.

» «

Perhaps Hitler isn't a madman, as some people are calling him, but to judge from what he is doing to the boundaries of Europe there is no doubt that he is a borderline case.

—*Hal Frank in Saturday Night, Toronto*.

» «

A certain Dr. Strauss was taken by Nazi Storm Troopers to the Dachau concentration Camp, and there locked in a dark cell. They broke his legs; they beat him till he was half dead, and allowed him no food. The unfortunate man had a strong constitution. He did not die.

He wrestled with death for two weeks. At that time one of his tormentors put two bullets through his head. His body left Dachau in a leaded coffin which his relatives were forbidden to open. Nevertheless, before the burial, the coffin was actually opened. I spoke to the man who saw the body. He trembled violently as he told me of the frightful injuries Dr. Strauss had had to suffer.

Dr. Strauss had a mother whom he idolized. He was her only son. Mother and son lived together in great harmony and happiness. The poor woman learned of her son's death in the following way:

An S. A. man called at her house, and asked her whether it was not a fact that her son had frequently suffered from heart attacks. The mother thought that, if she said her son had been subject to heart attacks, he might perhaps be treated as an invalid and released.

She said, "Yes, my son has always had a weak heart."

"Well," returned the S. A. hero, "he had a heart attack the other day and died of it."

—S. Lorant in *"I was Hitler's Prisoner."* (Penguin).

» «

An after dinner speaker, referring to Chamberlain's visits to the dictator, quoted the following version of a familiar saw:

"If at first you don't concede, fly, fly again."

» «

A current saying in Berlin runs as follows: "One can recognize honest men easily—they are those who have lost at least ten per cent of their weight since 1936."

» «

Goering was asked out to dinner, but to his intense annoyance, only ten of the twelve medals he was to wear could be found. His servants searched frantically through the twelve uniforms he had worn during the day, but without avail.

At last, in came Goering's valet, triumphantly carrying the missing medals. "You left them on your pajamas, Your Excellency," he said.

» «

The latest story from Germany. A drunk who had caused a row by calling Goebbels a schweinhund (pig dog) was tried and punished for three offences. First, for being drunk and disorderly; secondly, for using abusive language about a person in authority and, thirdly, for endangering the safety of the State by revealing an official secret.

On one of those dismal days of a few weeks ago when war appeared imminent, a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer executive ran into Hunt Stromberg, the producer, who looked unusually gloomy. "Well, what do you think about conditions in Europe?" he asked.

"They're terrible," Stromberg told his listener. "They've just banned Marie Antoinette in Italy."

» «

When one of his pictures was barred in Germany, Darryl Zanuck exclaimed, "That Hitler is going too far."

» «

The Fuhrer and Goering paid a secret visit to the Baltic coast. They hired a rowing-boat and Goering took the oars while Adolph sat behind. When they were out of sight of land Hitler looked round furtively and then said,

"Now I can put my plan into action."

Anxiously Goering asked, "What are you going to do, Adolph?"

The Fuhrer leaned forward and whispered, "I'm going to see if I can do this walking-on water stunt."

» «

A German Jew called on Hitler in 1936 and said to him: "My Fuhrer, you remember me . . . I'm Saul Kohn . . . served in your company during the War. We were together at the front for two years. Think of our experiences together and let me move to Vienna with my family and my belongings. . ."

"Very well, replied Hitler.

After the annexation of Austria the Jew visited Hitler in Vienna and said:

"My Fuhrer, we were together at the front for two years. Think of our experiences together and let me move to Prague with my family and my belongings."

"Very well," replied Hitler.

Three months later the German Jew appeared before Hitler again and repeated his little speech. "My Fuhrer, we were at the front together . . . Think of our war experiences and let me move with my family and belongings to Warsaw."

"No, not Warsaw, definitely not Warsaw!" exclaimed Hitler, wrinkling his brows. Then he added:

"Look here, why don't you go far, far away? I don't want to see you every week".

» «

After spending his first six months in a concentration camp "unconverted" to Nazism, one man wrote the "Prayer of the Third Reich" and was promptly sentenced to another six months. He wrote:

"Dear God, make me blind,
That I may Goebbels Aryan find.
Dear God, make me deaf,
That I may believe what Goering saith.
Dear God, make me dumb,
Lest the Brown shirts for me come,
For if deaf, dumb and blind I be,
Fuhrer Hitler will love me."

» «

Hans: "The Field-Marshal has got a new uniform of cellophane."

Fritz: "Why?"

Hans: "Oh, he wants to show Germany the first bit of fat on view since the Four Year Plan was launched."

» «

A well known German comedian had until recently an act which always sent the audience into gales of laughter. He walked onto the stage with a muzzle over his mouth, sat down

on a chair and remained silent. One minute, two minutes passed. Still he did not utter a sound. The audience began to titter. Finally he got up and walked off the stage, still silent.

Whereupon the Master of Ceremonies appeared in front of the footlights and announced:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, now that the political part of our program is over, we come to the entertainment!"

Both men are now languishing in a concentration camp.

» «

There is a grim joke that is going the rounds in Germany:

"How long will the Four Year Plan last?"

"Until Goering is able to get into Goebbel's trousers."

» «

Recently the following notice appeared in the Giovine Italia:

"We are advised by Rome that all the Negro and Ascarian soldiers coming to Italy will be compelled, in accordance with the new racial policy, to wear chastity belts which will prevent them from having relations with white women, even with prostitutes."

» «

Prize crack of the week by Walter Winchell: "There are only two kinds of people left in Germany—non-Aryans and barbarians."

» «

A correspondent complains that the print in Italian papers is too small and too crowded together. This makes it difficult for keen students of the Duce's speeches to read between the lines.

» «

Three officers of Franco's army were watching the progress of a battle, one was Italian, the other German, and the third Spanish. The German, looking thru his field glasses, said in a tone of surprise:

"But they're fleeing, our friends are fleeing, look! look! The Italians are running away!"

"Let me see the glasses," said the Italian officer, somewhat agitated. As he peered thru them, his face, a little troubled before, began to clear, and a large smile broke out. Describing a broad gesture in the air with his free hand, he cried: "Yes, they are fleeing, but proudly—like lions!"

» «

"... the dictators, as Sir Chas. Petrie remarked, "are like the mule; they have neither pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity."

» «

Goering was visiting one of the more important Ersatz factories and remained to have dinner with the director.

"Just between us," began the General, "you who are a good National Socialist must be in a position to know what the workers think of us."

"Yes, sir. I believe I do."

"Well, tell me, have the Social Democrats, the Christian Syndicalists, the Communists, have they all disappeared?"

"Oh, no, there are still some of them among the workers."

"How many Social Democrats?"

"About 40%."

"As many as that! And how many Christian syndicalists?"

"About 30%."

"My, my, but that is a huge figure . . . And the Communists?"

"About 30%, General."

"What's this, what's this . . . 40% plus 30% plus 30%—that makes 100%. Where are the National Socialists?"

"But, General," cried the director, raising his hands in an expansive gesture, "they are all National Socialists."

» «

Chamberlain takes a week-end in the country. Hitler takes a country in the week-end.
—*Magazine Digest.*

Several Nazi newspapers solemnly cited the goldfish swallowing epidemic among American collegians as evidence of malnutrition here.
—*The Nation.*

» «

"Why does Hitler always sit in the front row when he goes to a theatre?"

"Because that is the only place where he has the people behind him."

» «

Hitler: "There is something strange about you this morning. Ah yes, I know what it is now. For the first time in your life you've left off your medals."

Goering: "Dammit, I forgot to take them off my pajamas."

» «

The police ball held annually in Graz, Austria, has always been one of the country's gayest events. All the highest state functionaries, all the nation's principal personalities make it a point to be present. This year on the first anniversary of the Anschluss, the ball was flooded with Nazi officials, and Gestapo agents. Towards midnight following the old tradition the lights were extinguished for a few seconds during a waltz. When they were turned on again a horrifying sight met the eyes of the assembled guests: the floor was littered with tiny leaflets in the form of Crosses Potent—the emblem of independent Austria. The ball was interrupted immediately; everyone was searched, in spite of the fact that no lapel was without its swastika. The results were nil: those responsible for the seditious gesture could not be discovered. Finally it became apparent to everyone that the guilty parties could have been only—the policemen themselves.
—*L'Europe Nouvelle, Paris.*

» «

At an inn near Berlin a tourist asked the innkeeper how business was.

"Oh, fine!" he replied.

"So it is true," said the tourist, "that business is better since Hitler came into power?"

"Yah," responded the proprietor, "things are wonderful now. One country, one Leader, one customer."

» «

A tiger escaped from the zoo in Berlin and created havoc among the farms in the outskirts of the city. Notices were put up offering a prize for its capture, "dead or alive". Two Jews read the notice and suddenly one paled and whispered to the other:

"I think we ought to escape before we are shot."

"But why?" asked the other mystified. "We're not tigers."

"I know," stammered the first Jew. "But can we prove it?"

» «

An elderly man robbed and beaten up by toughs in a Berlin street one night, yelled, "Help! Murder!" Rushing up, a policeman quieted the victim. "Sh! You must not discuss politics so loudly!"

» «

Most Germans believe that the Reichstag fire was "arranged" to put the blame on the Communists. The following joke was current in Germany after the fire. An adjutant dashed into Goering's room and exclaimed:

"Your Excellency! The Reichstag is burning."

"What!" said Goering looking at his watch. "Already."

» «

The other day a man was waiting for a bus on a Berlin corner. While he was waiting a Gestapo agent came up and began to question him.

"What are you waiting for?" he asked.

"Believe me or not," replied the citizen, "I am waiting for National Socialism to come to Germany."

General Goering's love for gorgeous uniforms is notorious.

"Do you know that Goering's latest uniform is made of cellophane?" asks a German wit.

"No, but why?"

"Because he wants everybody to see the one he is wearing underneath."

» «

When Hitler began his notorious purges, hundreds of Germans flocked to join the Storm Troopers merely for their own protection. One day a man was walking along one of the main streets in Berlin when he saw a friend wearing the hated uniform.

"What's this?" he asked. "You, a rabid old communist in the uniform of a Storm Trooper?"

"Quiet," whispered the Communist. "What's wrong in that? I'm on the best terms with the men. As for the two Nazis in the company—well, we just refuse to have anything to do with them."

» «

Dr. Schact, the recently sacked chief of the Reichsbank, one day tried to demonstrate to Hitler that Jews were better business men than the Germans. He asked Hitler to accompany him on a shopping tour. The two entered an Aryan owned shop. Dr. Schact asked to see a set of "left-handed tea cups". The proprietor shakes his head and confesses that he has never heard of such things. The same thing happens at three more Aryan shops, and at last Dr. Schact takes Hitler into a shop owned by a Jew. Once again they ask for "left-handed teacups". Instantly the Jew's face lights up and he exclaims, "Ah, gentlemen, you are lucky. I have just received the first consignment of left-handed tea cups ever to arrive in Germany". Quietly going behind his counter the Jew turns all the cups around in the saucers so that the handle is on the left. Hitler buys the "unique" set and walks out of the shop. When they are alone, Dr. Schact says:

"Well, what did I tell you—the Jew proved a better businessman."

"I disagree," retorted Hitler. "That Jew was just lucky. He happened to have just received a set of left-handed tea cups on this very morning when we visited him."

» «

A pig, a dog and a goat went to Germany. The pig returned immediately and said: "It's terrible. They are eating all the filth and there's none left for me."

The dog swiftly followed and said: "It's terrible. I could not even bark. Only one man is allowed to bark in Germany."

Six months later the goat reappeared. "It's terrible," he reported. "When I got to the frontier they looked at my nose and my beard, said I must be a Jew, and put me in a concentration camp."

» «

A Catholic Bishop was delivering a sermon on the sanctity of the home and the duties of parents. A Brown Shirt heckler interrupted him:

"The effrontery of one who is childless—advising on children!" The Bishop shot back: "I will not have the Fuhrer insulted in this church."

» «

A German peasant woman gave birth to male twins. One was christened Adolf after Hitler, the other Paul after Hindenberg. "How are you going to distinguish them?" asked the officiating clergyman.

"That's simple enough," replied the beaming mother, "Adolf yells all day and Paul sleeps."

A suggestion as to the origin of the Fascist salute has been released by Sir Hasketh Bell, noted colonial administrator. During his governorship of Uganda he received a fine specimen of

ape that had been brutally maltreated by the natives. The mere sight of natives infuriated the ape but every time Governor Hasketh approached the cage the animal would advance towards him uttering guttural groans and raising his right hand and arm above his head in the most approved Fascist style. This leads to the question: were Mussolini and Hitler ever in Uganda?

» «

Hitler was having dinner with General and Mrs. Goebbels and a few close friends. In the course of the conversation somebody alluded to the purity of race and holiness of marriage in a regenerated country.

"What a pity that our Fuhrer is not married," remarked somebody.

"Why a pity," protested Mrs. Goebbels, "Wasn't Jesus Christ also a bachelor?" — *Magazine Digest.*

» «

In one of the big Berlin movie houses a film was shown on the dangers of traffic. After the scene of a terrible collision between two cars the question "Whose fault was it?" appeared on the screen.

"The Jews," replied a voice from the audience, and general hilarity greeted this ironical repetition of the Hitlerite Leitmotiv.

» «

Mussolini was stranded in a small town due to a breakdown in his motor. He went into the local cinema. His picture came onto the screen. Everybody rose but he remained seated. The proprietor of the place touched him on the shoulder and said, "I feel that way too. But you had better stand up. It is safer."

» «

A publisher is after Haile Selassie for a book. It would describe

the feeling of a conquering lion on being thrown to the Christians.
—*Magazine Digest.*

» «

A Dutch boy was standing on the Dutch frontier and a German boy was standing on the German frontier. "Ech," said the Dutch boy, "we have butter."
"Yes," countered the German boy, "but we have the Fuhrer, Hitler."
"Huh," replied the Dutch boy, "we have butter and the Kaiser. Soon we shall also have Hitler."

» «

God in creating Germans endowed them with three qualities: intelligence, honesty, and Nazism. But God in His wisdom imposed one restriction. A German could possess only two of these three qualities. In other words, if a German is a Nazi and honest he cannot be intelligent; if he is a Nazi and intelligent he cannot be honest; and if he is honest and intelligent he cannot be a Nazi.
—*Magazine Digest.*

» «

Hitler decided to make peace with the Vatican and sent his Minister of the Interior, Dr. Frick to Rome. But Frick found the job a rather awkward one and returned to Berlin for further instructions. Goebbels, next selected as negotiator, also returned, the mission unfulfilled. At last Hitler sent for General Goering and ordered the Prussian to settle the whole matter at once. A few days later the following telegram came from Goering in Rome:
"Everything settled. Vatican burning. Pope in flight. Papal ornaments suit me admirably."

» «

Definition of Fascism: Capitalism plus Murder.

Dorothy Thompson remarked once that when the rest of mankind is saying "Yes" to dictators, America will be saying, "Oh Yeah."

» «

Robert Gessner tells in his book that there is an organization in Germany called the Association of German National Jews. It supports Hitler, fights the Jewish boycott of German goods, etc., advocates complete loyalty to Hitler; they leave their meeting giving the Nazi salute shouting "Down with us!"

» «

The Nazi press in Germany was besides itself with rage. It reviled Berlin playgoers as "stupid masses" and reproached them with a "lack of the capacity for political thinking." What had happened? The Deutsche Theatre in Berlin recently presented the play "Don Carlos" by the great German poet and dramatist, Schiller. Every evening a burst of thunderous applause broke out when the famous line (spoken by one of the characters in the play) was reached: "Sir, give us freedom of thought." Several Nazis seated in the boxes angrily, hissed for silence, but they were drowned out by the tumultuous ovation that resounded from the balconies and the galleries.

» «

A well known German liberal told an English audience: "These Nazis hate you English with an almost metaphysical hatred because you recognize and pay the Leader of the Opposition instead of killing him."

» «

Nazi orator to crowd in Berlin: "We must get rid of the Jews, Socialism, Bolshevism, Communism and Anarchism."
Berlin citizen: "And while you're about it, why not throw in rheumatism."

As for Nazi intervention in Spain, the following anecdote was a big hit in Spain. A rebel officer announced to Franco that a violent battle had just taken place on the Aragon front.

"Were there any losses?" asked the general indifferently.

"Yes, the losses were heavy."

The Spanish dictator showed no trace of emotion.

"Two hundred Germans were killed!"

No reaction from Franco.

"Four hundred Italians fell on the field of battle!"

Franco remained motionless.

"... and a Spaniard died."

"What's that!" cried the General rising angrily from his chair.

"The fool. It served him right, mixing in things that were no business of his!"

» «

A great German general let himself go the other day on the subject of the war against the Churches which the Nazis are now waging.

"But I did not know you were such a religious man," interjected a foreigner who was present.

"I'm not," said the general. "I look at it from the technical point of view, and I know that no army which goes into battle without some hope of an after life will fight well. Hitler and his Nazis are ruining our raw material."

» «

In the midst of a talk in N. Y. by Irene Harand, the young Catholic woman who is battling Anti-semitism, a stench bomb was thrown. Confusion and disorder followed. Mrs. Harand holding up her arms, calmed the audience.

"Everyone contributes what he can," said she.

» «

Franco argument gave birth to the following story.

Judge to the accused: "You have killed your whole family, destroyed your furniture and burnt your home. What have you to say for yourself?"

Prisoner: "I claim the right of a belligerent."

» «

Hitler, Goering and Goebbels were talking. "All the same," said the latter, "suppose the German man on the street got tired of doing without butter, potatoes and sausages so that we can buy cannon and aeroplanes to send to Spain. Suppose a revolution should break out?"

"Oh, well," said Goering, "I'm director of Aviation, so I will always have a plane to get me out of the country."

"It is even more simple for me," said Goebbels. "With my Jewish nose, I could mix with the crowd and nobody would take me for a friend of the Nazis."

"And I want to remind you, gentlemen," said Hitler, "that I am an Austrian so I could claim protection because of my status as a foreigner."

» «

A friend of the Nazis inspired this little poem.

How courteous is the Japanese

He always says, "Excuse me, please."

He climbs into his neighbor's garden,

And smiles, and says, "I beg your pardon."

He bows and grins a friendly grin

And calls his hungry family in;

He grins and bows a friendly bow.

So sorry, this my garden now."

— Ogden Nash in *Lilliput*, London.

» «

The Jew, Solomon Levy, was summoned to the office of the tax collecting department in Berlin to pay up his taxes. When

he entered his glance wandered up and down the walls; he peered in corners, looked on every desk, and behaved in such a peculiar way that one of the officials asked him what he was looking for.

"Well," he replied, "I can't understand it. On the bathing beaches, in the theatres, in the parks and the restaurants, everywhere, there are signs all reading 'Jews Not Wanted', but, strangely enough, I don't see any around here."

» «

A Nazi remarked to a Dutchman that Hitler would be in Holland in a few months time.

"Yes," said the Dutchman. "I know. The Kaiser is here already."

» «

Hitler was to inspect an asylum. The inmates were carefully coached. As Hitler walked down the line each lunatic gave the Nazi salute and shouted "Heil Hitler". But the last man stood stolidly at attention.

"Why don't you salute me?" shouted Hitler.

"Your excellency is making a mistake," came the polite reply, "I am the keeper."

» «

"There's a German living in my house."

"Hush, if Hitler hears about it, he will want to annex the whole district."

» «

"When I hear the word 'culture', I take out my revolver and fire," said Goebbels.

» «

Father tells the little girl she must always say after breakfast, "Thank God and Hitler for my nice breakfast." And after dinner and supper the same.

"And what do I say, daddy, when Hitler is dead?"

"Oh, then, dear, you just say 'Thank God'."

» «

A German wit quoted Goebbels as complaining bitterly that 98% of the German people were devoted followers of National Socialism, but that strangely enough one always met the other 2%.

» «

It was in Prague that the following witticism was born. The true name of the British Premier was not Chamberlin but J'aime Berlin.

» «

A woman once asked Einstein if he was convinced that his theory was true.

"I believe it to be true," he replied, "but it will only be proved for certain in the year 1981 when I am dead."

"What will happen then?"

"Well, if I am right, the Germans will say I was a German, and the French will say I was a Jew; if I am wrong the Germans will say I was a Jew and the French will say I was a German."

» «

Three owners of chicken farms were being questioned by a Storm Trooper.

"What do you feed your hens?" he asked the first.

"Corn," answered the owner.

"You're under arrest. We use corn to feed the German army," said the Storm Trooper.

The second overheard the conversation and replied to the same question, "Corn husks."

"You, too, are under arrest. We need corn husks to make cloth for the army. And you?" he said turning to the third.

The latter answered, "I give my hens the money and tell them to go and buy their own food."

Hitler and Goering were in their box at the opera, witnessing a performance of Sigfried. At the end of the first act Goering slipped out to change his uniform. At the end of the second act he changed it again. And so at every intermission. At the end of the opera he went out again, and while he was out the "Siegfried" of the opera cast, dressed in his costume of skins and horns, came into the Fuhrer's box to pay his respects. The Fuhrer looked up and exclaimed admonishingly: "Really, Hermann, this is too much."

» «

Goebbels was in a heated argument with a diplomatic representative of Switzerland. "That," says Goebbels in a sharp reply to a suggestion of the Swiss, "is as absurd as your having a Minister of Marine."
"But, perhaps, less absurd," replied the Swiss, "than you having a Minister of Justice."

» «

Half-drunken soldiers in Germany have been caught singing the following touching tribute to their country and their leader:

"Hitler hat keine Frau,
Der Bauer hat keine Sau
Der Backer hat kein' Teig,
Das ist das Dritte Reich,
(Hitler has no wife,
The peasant has no sow
The Baker has no dough,
That is the third Reich.

» «

The chronic food shortage in Germany caused a wit to pen the following which is quite popular in Berlin and Vienna:
"Our Leader who art our host,

Give us, each day, the bread you boast,
Not just cabbage and turnips and herring,
Give us what you eat and what you give Goering."

» «

Karl Capek distinguished Czech author who recently died wrote the following brilliantly satirical lines, inspired by the Munich treason.

—*Statesman's Guide.*

Treaties are made to be kept by the weaker nations.

The efforts of statesmen have succeeded in completely maintaining collective insecurity.

In the interests of peace energetic measures against the victims of aggression must be taken.

Localising a conflict: Leaving a victim to his fate.

Liquidating a conflict: amputating his legs in addition.

No sacrifice made by . . . others is too much for the cause of peace.

There are many who like to warm their soup over a conflagration.

The Czechs have not been sold out—just given away for nothing.

» «

While driving thru the country Hitler's car ran over a dog. His chauffeur stopped the car and after looking at the dog pronounced him dead. Hitler instructed him to inform the farmer of the accident and recompense him for the dead dog. The chauffeur entered the farmer's house and when the farmer appeared said: "Heil Hitler. The dog is dead."

Whereupon the farmer smiled joyfully and retorted, "Wonderful. Let's drink to that good news."

» «

Heilen in German also means to heal.

First doctor on meeting his colleague: "Heil Hitler."

Second doctor: "Why don't you do it?"

Joseph Dunninger, the noted mentalist and expert on spiritualism has been informed that all his works have been banned in Germany. Mr. Dunninger who is famous for his mind reading abilities was quizzed by a reporter as to the reason for this.

Reporter: "Mr. Dunninger, do you think Hitler is afraid you might read his mind?"

Dunninger: "It would be easy to read Hitler's mind, provided I could locate it."

PART II
IS HITLER DEAD?

What an exciting question? The tremendous possibilities involved in the death of this tyrant arouses everybody's interest. The future course of events in Germany in particular and in Europe in general is intimately bound up with the life and death of this infant terrible of European politics. Recently a number of articles and books have appeared which have filled the air with fantastic tales about the purported death of Hitler. Obviously the wish to believe is strong, very strong, but the facts are rather scanty, and largely of a circumstantial nature. Here is a brief summary of the most significant data that I have been able to collect in answer to the melodramatic question, is Hitler dead?

Ludwig Bemelmans reported in the New Yorker magazine that he was informed in Germany that there are four doubles of Hitler who circulate about in Germany successfully posing as the Fuhrer. It seems that these doubles are good enough to fool most people into believing that they are Hitler. The importance of this solitary fact should not be underestimated. The possibility that Hitler might have been done away with by some of his loving colleagues and spurious Fuhrer, more amenable to their designs put in his place is less fantastic than appears at first sight, when we remember that Hitler has for years been successfully impersonated.

Another correspondent in the same magazine gives an interesting account of a story told him by an ex-Nazi Storm Trooper. This man told him that he quit the Nazi party after he discovered that Hitler had been murdered in 1934. He claims that this alleged murder of Hitler is known to all of the old Storm Troopers who like himself knew Hitler for a long time before he came into power.

It seems that after the Nazis had been in power for several months a conflict developed between two opposing factions in the party, the rights and the lefts. The lefts, a group of "radicals", demanded a redistribution of wealth in favor of the people. The right wing, supported by the wealthy Junkers and army opposed them. Hitler sided with the radical left. On June 29th, 1934 he was murdered. And on the following day, June 30th, a double impersonating the murdered leader ordered the death of the remaining leaders of the "radical left" wing of the

National Socialist party, Rohm, Heines, Ernst and a number of their more ardent followers.

Here we have a fairly reasonable account of the crime even to the supplying of a motive. While it seems not unlikely, that Hitler, maudlin sentimentalist, as well as sadistic despot, may have been sympathetic to the "radical" demands of the left group in the Nazi party. However, I seriously question the probability that he would have committed himself on the side of the losing faction. He is too keen a politician not to have sensed which way the wind blew and his egomania and lust for power which breaks forth on every page of his six hundred page book "Mein Kampf", would have prevented his choosing the losing side. Hitler by temperament is incapable of that particular type of idealism which would lead him to endanger his neck, especially after he had tasted the fruits of victory and achieved such a measure of power as was his in the early part of the summer of 1934, when he presumably was murdered. All in all it is extremely unlikely that Hitler allied himself with the radical wing of the National Socialist party. But it is quite in keeping with his tyrannical ruthlessness to credit him with the order to exterminate his former comrades, the very men who were instrumental in helping him attain that power which he later wielded to destroy them.

Another correspondent reports that he knew a German who met Hitler during the war. In 1936 this old acquaintance of Hitler went to visit him in Germany. After one meeting he was convinced that the "Hitler" he met was the same Hitler he knew in a hospital during the war. It appears from his story that Hitler had his right index finger amputated in order to save his right hand which was threatened with blood poisoning (the blood of Aryans are easily poisoned, you know!): whereas the Fuhrer he met in Germany sported an index finger on his right hand. He also told this correspondent that he was told by a personal friend of his who is a high Nazi official that Hitler was murdered by the conservatives in 1934.

Still another report has it that one of the most closely watched persons in a concentration camp is the tailor who once fitted Hitler's uniforms. It seems that agents of the Gestapo overheard him tell some friends of his in a restaurant that Hitler's arms

grew almost two inches longer in less than a month during the winter of 1934.

It is significant that three of these reports agree in one important respect. They all place the time of Hitler's death in 1934. Had these reports of his death been timed to have taken place in different years it would place a greater strain on our credulity. The New Yorker also reports that an American dancer, whose name they do not divulge, was present at a private party tendered by Hitler in Berlin in 1937, and again this year. When asked whether she thought Hitler was dead and that a double was substituted for him, she replied, in effect, that while she could not say which one of the two Hitlers was genuine—she felt confident that "one of them babies wasn't Hitler." In the last report we have the time of the crime pushed ahead three or four years. Or else we must conclude that the powers behind the chancellorship in Germany have had trouble with the spurious Hitlers that they have enthroned in Adolf's place, and every now and then a troublesome double is replaced by one who may be more docile. Fantastic? Yes, but really no more so than so many other occurrences in Germany since the Nazis seized power in 1933.